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Dear Professor Melanson,

Paul Hoch has sent me a copy of your Nation 3/26/83 article on the CIA and local police. A source I may not disclose, who was in a local police force that got CIA training, told me that the Zapruder film was used in it. He would not tell me how.

Several things of which you wrote interest me. One is the assignment of a CIA liaison to Montgomery County, Md. The other is the records on Bud and his CTIA, because I am in those records.

I lived in and did all my early work in Montgomery County, near Hyattstown, at its upper end. For a number of reasons I'd be interested in any Montgomery County information you may have.

When Bud got copies of his records from the CIA he let me have copies of them. When I got the CIA's records on me - and they are incomplete - it did disclose one or two of the records it had already disclosed to Bud but it obliterated everything on them except my name.

In fact I never had any connection with the CTIA and specifically, was never its investigator, which those records state.

I used the phones of several of the Washingtonians who were under DC police surveillances, including electronic. So, I'd be quite interested in any records pertaining to its associations with the CIA. Of course I also visited them often and was undoubtedly observed by informers.

My source who'd had CIA training had nothing to do with record keeping. He was a detective assigned to criminal investigations - and a rather unscrupulous one at that.

Paul also sent me Jonathan Marshall's notes on political importance of secret societies, if you have it. On pp.11 ff he refers to the late Herman Kimsey as CIA chief of research and analysis under Dulles. From what I know of Kimsey's life and career I very much doubt this. He had no background for it at all and from my knowledge of R & A going back to OSS he was anything but the type for that job. They went in for heavily-accredited scholars, like Bill Langer. However, if you have anything pertinent, I am interested in Kimsey largely because of the McDonald fakery, of which I know much going back to the two earlier versions. I was quite surprised that Len Davidov, whose name was thinly disguised in all but the final verson of Appointment in Dallas, would lend himself to such a project because of his and his family's close relationship with Kimsey. After the CIA fired Kimsey he actually lived in Davidov's offices, which then were in an old apartment house in Washington, the Chasleton. He worked for Davidov's Security Associates, sometimes as a guard. If you recognize the name, Security Associates, or a group by that name that may not be identical, was part of a well-publicized fiction of just before the appearance of McDonald's book in which it claimed to have solved the assassination for a client. Marchall is correct on Kimsey's intense interest in the Romanovs. He is wrong on McDonald's coauthor (p. 14), who was not Robin Moore. M. may have been thinking of Jack Youngblood. McD. used Geoffrey Bocca. I met b, McD, his agent and his publisher, who is a scoundrel. Also Davidov and his wife and a lady friend of Kimsey's. Once when Davidov took this lady, his and my wife and me to dinner, I suspect trying to learn what I knew of McD's fakery, he told me that he was a vice president in charge of security for the larger corporation that owns the People's Drug chain, as I recall it was named Oak. McDonald is the most accomplished con man I've ever met and a real rascal.

Thanks and best wishes, Harold Weisberg